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a light emitting element for emitting light used to detect the leading end and the entraining end of a magnetic tape within a cassette arranged within the video cassette deck, a light guiding member for guiding the light from the light emitting element into the cassette for detecting the leading and entraining ends of a magnetic tape, and directly guiding the light onto the side of the reel for detection of the reel, a light receiving element for receiving the light guided onto the side of the reel, a light passing portion or a light screening portion provided on the reel so as to cross the light path reaching from the light guiding member to the light receiving element through the rotation of the reel, characterized in that the light emitting element and the light receiving element are provided under a deck chassis for mounting main components including the reel of the video cassette deck, and the light guiding member guides the light from the light emitting element below the deck chassis to a point above the deck chassis and thereafter to the light receiving element under the deck chassis by way of a light passing portion provided on the reel when aligned with an opening portion on the deck chassis.

26. (New) A reel rotation and detection mechanism for a video cassette deck

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cont.
comprising:

a reel rotatably mounted on the cassette deck chassis and having a disk portion generally proximate to said deck chassis and provided with an opening portion for transmission of light through said disk portion;

a light emitting element for emitting light used to detect the leading end and the entraining end of a magnetic tape within a cassette arranged within the video cassette deck, a light guiding member for guiding the light from the light emitting element into the cassette for detecting the leading and entraining ends of a magnetic tape, and directly guiding the light onto the side of the reel for detection of the reel, a light receiving element for receiving the light guided onto the side of the reel, a light passing portion or a light screening portion provided on the reel so as to cross the light path reaching from the light guiding member to the light receiving element through the rotation of the reel, characterized in that the light emitting element and the light receiving element are provided under a deck chassis for mounting main components including the reel of the video cassette deck, and the light guiding member guides the light from the light emitting element below the deck chassis to a point above the deck chassis and thereafter to the light receiving element under the

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cont.
deck chassis by way of a light passing portion provided on the reel when aligned with an opening portion on the deck chassis.

27. (New) A reel rotation and detection mechanism for a video cassette deck comprising:

a video cassette deck having an opening therein for permitting light to pass therethrough;

a reel rotatably mounted on the cassette deck chassis and having a disk portion generally proximate to the deck chassis and provided with an opening portion for transmission of light through said disk portion, said opening portion in said disk being arranged to selectively align said opening portion in said disk with said opening in said deck chassis along a direction generally normal to said deck chassis;

a light emitting element for emitting light used to detect the leading end and the entraining end of a magnetic tape within a cassette arranged within the video cassette deck, a light guiding member for guiding the light from the light emitting element into the cassette for detecting the leading and entraining ends of a magnetic